

MRS. JOHN A. LOGAN DESCRIBES FOR THE JOURNAL THE EXACT CONDITIONS AT THE CAMP AT MONTAUK.

She Says the Great Needs at the Present Time Are Pure Fresh Water and More Doctors.



Mrs. Logan Writing in the Camp Kitchen.

To the Editor of the Journal:

DESIRING to meet my son, Major John A. Logan, Jr., who has been seriously ill with malarial fever at Santiago, I came to Montauk Point at the early hour of 7 o'clock this morning, and am overwhelmed with astonishment at the prodigious work being performed by General Young and his efficient brigade commanders, Generals Williston and Randall, and the corps of officers and men under them.

In the first place, General Young deserves the thanks of the Administration and the people for requesting that no more troops from the interior be sent to this camp, but that the insufficient accommodations be reserved for the troops from Santiago, for whom this camp was originally intended. It would have required superhuman power to have prepared this barren point, interspersed by brackish lakes, and whose shores are washed by the sea and the Sound, for an army in the brief time since it was selected, with but one railroad to transport materials alone. But when thousands of sick and well men and cavalry horses have been rushed in daily there could be but one result—dire confusion, and as great a confusion of cars on the tracks as there was at Tampa. In addition to all this there has been a steady downpour of rain for the past three or four days and nights.

But in the face of all this the men are being made comfortable very rapidly, and in another week will be all right if the steamers from Santiago do not succeed each other too quickly and the army of carpenters do not get up another rebellion.

I have visited all the camps this morning and have been through the general hospital, and am glad to report that the hundred patients whom I saw were very well provided for and expressed themselves as very happy over their changed conditions. Colonel Forwood's plan, or grouping of the hospitals, could not be improved upon. His design provides for five hundred men. Their kitchens, offices, storerooms, apothecary shop, and all the accessories of a great hospital are very superior, and his able assistant, Dr. Brown, seems a veritable Hercules of strength and endurance and an executive officer of the highest order. His skill as physician and surgeon eminently qualifies him for the position he is filling. His great heart is touched by the suffering of his patients, and he does as much for them by his cheering words and tender solicitude as by his prescriptions. The greeting of the sick showed the bond of sympathy between him and his patients.

One great lack is an insufficient number of surgeons on duty, and others should be sent at once before the arrival of the steamers bearing our exhausted sick and wounded from Cuba.

Colonel Forwood, who is surgeon in charge, told me they had everything that money, patriotism and intelligence could suggest. Red Cross, National Relief and other societies, through their representatives, including such noble women as Mrs. Walworth, Helen Gould, Mrs. Washington A. Roebling and others, had sent tons of supplies in the way of matron (invaluable in fever), apollinaris, ice and milk, to say nothing of jellies, lemons, etc. Best of all, good cooks and male nurses have been provided. Colonel Forwood also said he was to receive hot water bags and all the appliances used in the modern hospitals of the cities. All of these come from the generous and patriotic people of the societies. Not the least of the necessary adjuncts is the great laundry, erected through the untiring energy and skill of Captain Goodale, of Boston.

But in all this a question has occurred to me: Why send so many here? Why not utilize for the troops now in the South Camp Sheridan and South Park, near Chicago and on grand old Lake Michigan? Or Fort Snelling? No finer places could be found, and there would be no question of fresh, pure water, as there still is here. Again, there would be ample railroad transportation and other necessities of a great camp. Besides, the poor fellows returning from Cuba have had enough of the ocean's roar as well as the cannon's, and of the wind of the sea.

Every man connected with this camp is doing his level best, but together they cannot build railroads, extend the transportation facilities, or get fresh, pure water where God has not put it. Water in tanks will do for a militia encampment, but is inadequate for an army of soldiers and large hospitals, and more than this, supplies and water cannot be obtained except under a journey of four miles.

I have witnessed generals, colonels and commissioned officers of all ranks with their coats off hewing wood and drawing water and personally attending to the most menial of duties, to rush the preparations for the illustrious guests expected hourly from the scenes of their victorious achievements, and I only hope they may be nearer ready when the heroes arrive than now seems possible.

American soldiers are the most resourceful and good natured in the world, and though they grumble and swear at their situation, they will keep at work night and day, and if given half a chance they will surmount insuperable difficulties in incredibly brief time. All they ask is that the powers that direct shall not issue their orders from information based on interested reports and beautiful maps gotten up to advertise a resort, but know positively the possibilities of a place, and make timely provision for the comfort of those who are to be under their care. Too much should not be expected from those at the helm, any more than from the men at work, but wisdom should be exercised before trying experiments that may cost human lives.

I was with my husband from the very outset of the raising of troops in the West in 1861, and personally helped the glorious women in establishing the first hospital at Cairo, Ill., where there was nothing with which to begin except patriotic generosity. Ignorance of everything military abounded, and I know what it means to establish a hospital. With this knowledge, I am sure no greater work could have been done in the time than has been done here, when, at the same time, those building the hospitals had to administer to patients numbering more than one hundred.

I also witnessed the establishment of the first camps of those memorable days of 1861, and see no difference in this prodigious work now from what it was then; but the more I see I am more and more proud that I am an American, and that my life has been in touch with the great American soldier. And I feel that while we are blessed by such a Chief Executive as President McKinley we shall overcome all our difficulties and advance to the next of real greatness among the nations.

John A. Logan



The Sick Men Blessed Her as She Passed Through the Hospital.

In making her inspection for the Journal Mrs. John A. Logan passed through the newly constructed hospital wards, escorted by Dr. Brown, the surgeon in charge. She had a cheery word for each of the sufferers, was perfectly at home in the work of alleviating pain, and many of the men on the cot lifted themselves to say how much good the visit of a woman had done them. Mrs. Logan found a need for better water and more doctors to be in readiness for the Santiago patients. But she found the hundred invalids now under the surgeons well housed, excellently attended and with most of the comforts of a modern hospital.

The Military Authorities Issue an Order Debarring All Visitors from the Entire Encampment.

THERE has been so much written pro and con concerning the camp at Montauk that the Journal requested Mrs. John A. Logan to report the exact conditions as they appeared to a mother expecting an invalid son to arrive at the camp and as one thoroughly familiar with the establishment and maintenance of great military camps and hospitals.

Mrs. Logan's only son, Major John A. Logan, Assistant Adjutant-General on the staff of General Bates, was one of the heroes of the fighting at Santiago. Stricken down with malarial fever, he was requested to take a furlough and come home. But he stuck to his post, resumed his work before he was fit, and had so serious a relapse that his life was despaired of. He is now on his way to Montauk on the Grand Duchess, and naturally Mrs. Logan viewed the camp and the hospital facilities with the eye of one solicitous for the welfare of the invalid soldier.

More than this, Mrs. Logan assisted in establishing the first Western hospital of the civil war, and followed her illustrious husband into the camps and campaigns of the Union army. So she was particularly qualified to pass judgment on the excellencies or shortcomings at Camp Wikoff, on Montauk Point.

She fitted right into the camp life like a soldier, sleeping on a cot in a corner at overcrowded Amagansett; rising with the dawn and riding into camp on the construction train with the carpenters, and pushing out through the hub-deep mud, splashed by the toiling mules of the army wagons, to visit the different departments of the widely scattered encampment. In the hospital wards she was as much at home as a housewife in a pantry. She knew just how to cheer the patients, and they blessed her as she passed. Her questions went right to the point, showing her thorough understanding of the situation, and generals, surgeons and subalterns were all glad to obtain her suggestions and advice. Then she calmly wrote her story in the midst of the turmoil of the camp kitchen.

Mrs. Logan's conclusions were reassuring. She found the great needs to be pure water, better transportation facilities, and more doctors—the latter to the end that the surgeons might have an absolute mastery of the situation before the patients are unloaded from the transports. Her advice was that instead of attempting to mass the troops from the comparatively healthy camps of the South with those from stricken Santiago, that the former be distributed in such camps as Fort Snelling and Camp Sheridan on Lake Michigan, where the best of water can be had, and where railroad facilities are ample.

Her criticism is not of the bustling people at the camp, but of those who forced upon them the troops and invalids before proper preparations had been made to receive them.

CAMP WIKOFF, Montauk Point, L. I., Aug. 13.—There is little chance of the friends of the soldiers seeing them for several days, possibly for two weeks, even if they come to Montauk.

General Young, in charge of the preparations, issued a general order to-day forbidding visitors in the camp. President Baldwin, of the Long Island Railroad, is disposed to co-operate with the Government officials, though it may drive thousands of customers from his road.

There are hundreds of the wives and friends of the soldiers crowding the hotels at Amagansett, the last stop below here, awaiting the sighting of the transports in the harbor to descend on the camp. They will flock here by the thousands as soon as it is announced that the ships have arrived. It would be cruel, General Young says, to hold out false hopes to these people.

Under the present harbor and camp regulations, the strictest kind of quarantine for the whole camp will be maintained.

Gate City at Montauk. The transport Gate City arrived from Santiago last evening. The ship was at once boarded by the Quarantine officers, and the suspected cases among the troops were sent to the detention camp. The Gate City brought 613 soldiers.

This is the situation: The transports loaded with troops from Cuba are expected to arrive in the harbor to-morrow. Some of the men

may have yellow fever, others may have developed typhoid on the way, and large numbers, it is considered certain, will be suffering with dysentery and malarial fever. There is only a bare possibility that some ships may be able to show a clean bill of health.

Each transport will be boarded two miles out in the harbor by Dr. Magruder, the quarantine officer in charge on the water, with his corps of assistants. They will examine each man carefully. This alone will take several hours, and during that time a troop will be kept away from the transports.

Should by chance any transport give a clean bill of health the transport will be warped up to the main dock back of the railroad station, and the troops will be marched directly to their camps on the hill. These General Young will allow no one to see them, because it would interfere with the work of putting up the tents and preparing for other troops to come.

Will Send Visitors Back. The camp ground proper is practically an island, being separated from the ground where the station stands by a marsh covered with water, through which a narrow dirt road has been built. Visitors will be stopped at this road and sent back to the railroad station.

Feet will be going up for two weeks, and the uninfected troops will not be allowed to see their friends.

In case Dr. Magruder finds diseased men on a troop ship the entire boat load of men will be strictly quarantined. If there are typhoid fever cases aboard the transport will steam around Rocky Point, three miles from the landing to what is now called quarantine station. There the ty-

NO VISITORS ALLOWED AT MONTAUK.

Visitors will not be allowed at Camp Wikoff, Montauk Point, until General Young raises the quarantine. The troops now on their way from Cuba will, it is feared, bring yellow and typhoid fever, and until the sick men are placed in hospitals and the inspected cases thoroughly investigated no one will be permitted within the lines.

phoid fever patients will be transferred to Red Cross boats and taken to New York and Brooklyn hospitals. Then the transport, with the rest of the troops aboard, will steam back into the harbor, and the rest of the men will be put through a disinfecting process at the second or quarantine dock. Each man will be taken on the disinfecting barge Protector and given a thorough bath. Clothing will be put through the sulphur bath provided on the ship. The men will then be marched up the private road to the detention camp. The sick will be taken to the observation hospital, where the nature and needs of the illness will be carefully determined.

Yellow fever patients will be sent to the hospital provided for that purpose. This camp will be strictly quarantined and the troops will be kept away from their friends even in the general camp for at least ten days. They will then be sent into general camp. When all the troops arrive and have been established free from all disease, visitors will be allowed to come to see them. Until the embargo is raised, however, Montauk is a good place to stay away from.

Hardly Standing Room Now.

It should be borne in mind that there's scarcely dry standing room at Montauk now. The place consists of a little station almost surrounded by freight cars. The Long Island Railroad Company has opened a fairly commodious restaurant at the depot, where a sandwich can be purchased with a cup of coffee. Then there are the Second House and the Third House, the only two houses of any description on the point for the reception of guests. These are crowded to the doors, the overflow guests sleeping on the floors. Even the workmen are sleeping in the half finished freight houses and eating their rations cooked in a cauldron kitchen.

"We want the public to know," said General Young to-day, "that there is no room for visitors here. The workmen putting up the hospitals have already been interfered with by the few visitors who have come, and it would not be right to allow anything to interfere with preparations for the reception and comfort of the soldiers. We will be able to care for the soldiers as fast as they arrive, and we will take good care of these people until the proper time arrives."

There are thousands of letters here awaiting the coming of the transports, formerly used by the Seventy-first Regiment and the Rough Riders. There are two valves and several boxes awaiting Colonel Roosevelt in the express office, besides a small pouch of mail matter.

Signal men, with their wigwag flags, are stationed in the observatory formerly used by the Weather Bureau on the high hill above the railroad station, waiting for the first signs of the transports. Every signal men have their camp and lookout men on the opposite side of the island, on the ocean side. Through powerful glasses they scan the ocean line on the lower side of Long Island for the incoming troops. General Young has his actual working headquarters at the railroad station, and arrangements have been made to notify him the moment the ships are sighted. Ships run along the coast within three or four miles of the land, and it is expected that the name of a ship will be known through signals perhaps three hours before she reaches the bay inside of the point.

Wet Weather Hinders Work.

The work on the hospital tents and regular camp tents is going on as fast as could be expected owing to the wet weather. The mud on the new roads is half way to the hubs. Colonel Forwood says he will have 800 beds ready in the general hospital to-night, and will keep his men at work steadily until the work is completed. He is now ahead of the rush, and can handle

all that come in. There are about seventy-five men in the hospital now. Some have been sent out as cured, but there are still thirty cases of typhoid fever. They will probably be sent to New York or Brooklyn as soon as they can be moved. Six men of the Rough Riders who came in yesterday were sent to the hospital this morning.

Mrs. Ellen Walworth, the agent of the National War Relief Association, who has already worked wonders in helping the sick and in hurrying the preparation of the hospital, is well pleased with the present conditions. They are one hundred per cent better than the outlook promised three days ago. Then the sick men were lying on the wet ground, practically without care, and work on the hospital tents was at a standstill owing to the lack of the carpenters. Now she says the arrangements are complete for caring for the sick here, and there will be room for all the ailing who may come in.

"The Red Cross, under Dr. Townsend, has done a noble work," said Mrs. Walworth. "What he has not procured our society has arranged for, so that the soldiers are now well cared for. I have just received word from Mrs. Roebling that two male nurses, trained to care for typhoid fever, are on their way here. Good nursing and care is about all these patients lack at present."

"I am well pleased with the work of the Journal in calling our attention to the needs of the camp in the first place and for that paper's co-operation in keeping the officials stirred up. The hospital is well supplied with food and hygienic water. They promise us plenty of good water from the well, but they have not the pipes laid yet, and until they get the water up there and set the pumps working it cannot be known how much and how good the water will be."

GATE CITY HAS REACHED MONTAUK.

Another transport from Santiago, the Gate City, has reached Montauk Point. Although there was a rumor that she had run short of provisions during the latter part of the trip, medical inspection showed that the Gate City had made a fine health record, for although 93 out of her 613 passengers were invalids when she sailed from Cuba, only twenty or thirty were found to be ill when she anchored outside Montauk Point yesterday evening.

General Sumner and 540 men of the Third and Sixth Cavalry, with a few soldiers of other commands, were shipped from Santiago on the Gate City. At the last moment, before she sailed last Monday, Dr. Gonzalez made an inspection and found eight of the passengers to be suffering from yellow fever. These were taken ashore, and the transport was disinfected by the quarantine barge, after which she steamed direct for Montauk Point.

It was soon after a o'clock that the Gate City was sighted off Amagansett. The elaborate signals which she exchanged with the shore were followed by unusual activity in the commissary department at the camp, and this led to the conjecture that the men on the transport were in need of provisions. At 6:15 the steamer dropped anchor and was boarded by Drs. McGruder and Brunner, both of whom are yellow fever specialists.

The physicians found only three fever cases which excited their uneasiness, and they were unable to determine whether these were yellow fever or typhoid fever. The patients in question will be landed at the detention hospital, and if the disease proves to be typhoid, they will be brought to this city on a Red Cross boat.